

United States Department of Agriculture



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Transmitted via Email

August 17, 2005

MINNESOTA BULLETIN NO. 260-5-51

SUBJECT: INF – MINNESOTA NRCS MARKETING NEWS RELEASE

Purpose. To provide a Marketing Team News Release

Expiration Date. September 30, 2005.

Attached to this bulletin is a news release entitled ***Local Work Group Meetings and Listening Sessions to be Held.*** It was prepared for the NRCS Marketing Team by Julie MacSwain, Public Affairs Specialist.

Please feel free to adapt, as needed, and distribute as soon as possible to your local news outlets.

Questions regarding the MN NRCS Marketing Team efforts should be directed to John Nicholson, Marketing Chair, and public information efforts should be directed to Julie MacSwain.

WILLIAM HUNT
State Conservationist

Attachment - News Release

DIST: AE

NEWS RELEASE

Contact _____
_____ **County District Conservationist**
Phone (XXX) XXX-XXXX

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOCAL WORK GROUP MEETINGS AND LISTENING SESSIONS TO BE HELD

St. Paul, MN, August 17, 2005 - Local Work Group (LWG) meetings and listening sessions will be conducted throughout Minnesota's 91 Soil and Water Conservation Districts during August and September of 2005. You are invited to attend to provide input on the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) for 2006.

What is a Local Work Group?

The conservation effort is the foundation of USDA's conservation program delivery process. The LWG supports the locally led conservation effort by coordinating USDA programs with other Federal, State, county, tribal and local conservation programs to provide an integrated solution to addressing natural resources concerns. The purpose of the LWG is to provide advice to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) concerning the implementation of conservation programs

Membership

The Federal Advisory Committee Act prohibits non-government individuals from spending Federal dollars or providing advice in a formal decision-making process related to the expenditure of such funds. As a result, membership of the LWG is limited to Federal, State, county, tribal, or local government representatives. Despite the membership limitation, public participation is allowed and very much encouraged at LWG group meetings. LWG membership may include:

- NRCS District Conservationist;
- Members of the conservation district board;
- Members of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Committee;
- FSA County Executive Director;
- Conservation District Manager;
- Cooperative Extension agent;
- State or local elected or appointed officials;
- Tribal representatives

For More Information Contact the NRCS or the local conservation district in your county. The NRCS office is listed in the telephone book under U.S. Government, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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